

Vermont Public Service Board  
112 State Street, Drawer 20  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2701

July 28, 2005

Honorable Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
(filed electronically)

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No.  
96-45; "USERP Package"

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Please find attached a plan for revising universal service support to rural and nonrural wireline carriers, as well as competitive ETCs. The plan is called the Universal Service Endpoint Reform Plan ("USERP").

The filing is made pursuant to discussions at the meeting of the Federal-State Joint Board on July 25, 2005 in Austin, Texas. I understand that the Commission may soon publish a notice that seeks comment on a number of "packages" proposed by Joint Board members, possibly including this one. One or more of those other packages may refer to the USERP plan.

The first attachment is a document describing the USERP plan. Also attached is a spreadsheet showing how the plan might work in a hypothetical high-cost state.

This plan was developed by three members of the Joint Board staff, whose telephone numbers are listed here:

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Respectfully,

Peter M. Bluhm, Esq.  
Staff Member

Federal-State Joint Board on Universal  
Service

Enclosures (2)